FRANCIS BROCCARD

(Secretary to Pope *Clement* the Eighth)

HIS ALARM

TO ALL

Protestant Princes.

With a Discovery of

Popish Plots and Conspiracies,

After his Conversion from POPERY

TO THE

PROTESTANT RELIGION.

Translated out of the Latin Copy Printed in *Holland*.

LONDON,

Printed by *T. S.* for *William Rogers*, at the Maiden-head over against St, *Dunstan*'s Church in *Fleetstreet*. 1679.

The Translator to the READER.

THE *Author of this Discourse was* Francis Broccard; *sometime Secretary to* Pope CLEMENT *the Eighth. Who, by reason of that Employment, was well acquainted with the Designes of the Pope and the Popish Party, and thereby enabled to Acquaint the World with what Counsels they had then on Foot, for the Ruin of all Protestants, and Establishing their own Tyranny, and Bloudy Interest.*

*The Villanous Wickedness of these Unchristian Designs, we may well presume, was one great Inducement to make him forsake that Bloudy Religion, and turn Protestant, For though the Designs were, as to others, palliated under Specious Pretences, yet to him who saw the bottom of those Cursed Contrivances; and by what ways, and for what ends they were to be brought about; they did appear in their true Shape. Which, (notwithstanding the prejudice of his Education and Interest) made him detest and abhor such Principles. For according to our Saviours own Direction, (*By their Works you shall know them*) he might be well assured that these Counsels were not the Dictates of* the Prince of Peace.

The time when this Discourse was Written is manifest from the Contents of it to be in the Year 1603. *Being later than the Year* 1602. *(which he mentions* Num. 21. *As a time past) and while* CLEMENT *the Eighth was yet Living, as is said in the Preamble, (who died* Feb. *the* 21. 1604. *English Stile,) and was the same Year in which had happened that Attempt on* Geneva *by the Duke of* Savoy, *as is said at* Num. 37. *(which began with an intended Surprise early on Sunday Morning* Dec. 22. 1602. *and ended with a Treaty* July 21. *New Stile,* 1603. *as* Thuanus *tells us.* Lib. 29.

And though he do not particularly describe the Gunpowder-Treason *here in* England, *(which was then contriving though not perfectly formed; and was to be executed on our* Nov. 5. 1605) *Because his Principal Intent was to set forth the Particular Designs on* Germany: *Omitting the particulars on* France, England, *and other Countries, as he tells at* Num. 24, *yet he there tells us at* Num. 23, 24. *that out of the English Seminaries were then sent forth into* England *Emissaries in great Numbers to do Mischief and work Disturbance here: And at* Num. 40. *that a great*

Navy,

Navy was then preparing either against Holland or England (*as there should be occasion*) *and that there were in* England *and* Scotland (*as well as the Netherlands*) *great Multitudes addicted to the* Popish *and* Spanish *Interest, who did but wait the opportunity of such an Invasion, being ready on all occasions to spend thier Bloud for the Church of* Rome.

How Universal the Design was which (under the Name of the Holy League) was intended against the whole Protestant Party (and England, *amongst the rest;) and how Subtily, Sedulously, and Maliciously it was carried on with all the Artifice, Falshood and Treachery imaginable, is evident by the Discovery made by this Convert who had been an Actor in it, and Secretary to the Pope.*

And 'tis from such only that we can hope to have a particular Account of such dark Designs: When God by his Providence convincing them of the wickedness of these Hellish Plots, make those who had been Actors in them to betray their own Counsels.

And that the Designs here Discovered were not Forgeries of his own Invention, but really intended, is but too manifest from the History of those Times; where we find many of them actually attempted, and more. (in likelyhood) would have been, if that Pope (who died the Year following) had lived a little longer.

And that the same Designs have been ever since pursued as to the general, (but varied in Particulars as Occasions and Opportunities have required) and are so at this day; is very evident by the Bloudy Warrs and Massacres ever since, in Germany *and many other Protestant Countries in pursuant of those Designs. And particularly in our late Civil-Warrs in* England *fomented by Jesuitical Counsels, though executed by Schismaticks, the Bloudy Massacres in* Ireland, *and the present Popish Design, for killing our King, subverting our Government, murdering his People, destroying the Protestant Religion, and introducing Popery amongst us. Which God hath in like manner Discovered by persons ingaged in it, as he did then by the Author of this Discourse.*

The Lord grant that our eyes may at length be opened to discern these Depths of Satan, and Antichristian Policy; and our Hearts inlarged to Praise him who hath hitherto watched over us and Preserved us: and to wait on him by a Faithful Dependance, Sincere Repentance, and diligent Endeavours to Prevent the Mischiefs which they Designe.

The Copy from whence I Translated this, was Printed at Amsterdam, *by* Jacob Younger, *in the Year* 1677. *Annexed to the Latin Translation of Mr.* Potters *Interpretation of the Number* 666.

FRANCIS

FRANCIS BROCCARD

(Sometime Secretary to Pope *Clement* the Eighth)

HIS ALARM

(After his Converſion to the True Faith of Chriſt)

To all Chriſtian Princes (Favourers of the Proteſtant Religion) againſt the Pope and Popiſh Plots and Conſpiracies, by him diſcovered.

THE moſt gracious God having marvelouſly brought me forth from the diſmal Darkneſs of Popery, to the clear Light of the Goſpel, and the pure acknowledgment of his Word; I might deſervedly be accounted the moſt ungrateful of all men living, if I ſhould not devote and ſet apart the reſt of my life to the glory of his holy Name, and the advantage of his Goſpel. For moſt unworthy I were and impious, if him from whom I enjoy life and ſalvation, I ſhould not vouchſafe to ſerve and obey in the beſt manner I can.

And ſince for the preſent I am able to do no more, I ſee no better way and opportunity of bringing glory to God, doing good to his Church, and teſtifying my true affection to the Proteſtant Religion, than by detecting and making known the counſels which the Papiſts, the ſworn enemies of Chriſt

and his Goſpel, are contriving and endeavouring to bring to paſs againſt all that have a kindneſs for the Proteſtant Cauſe; which in my opinion are ſuch as ought not to be diſſembled or concealed, nor can be without great offence to his Divine Majeſty, and great miſchief to the true Religion: For the whole Popiſh Party have entred into a moſt grievous and pernicious Conſpiracy againſt the Proteſtant Religion, and have unanimouſly united and bound themſelves by oath in a moſt ſtrict and wicked League againſt all the Profeſſors of it; inſomuch that without doubt they will be able to do much miſchief to the Proteſtant Cauſe, if thoſe againſt whom theſe counſels are firſt intended to be put in practice do not take timely warning for their own defence. I know very well that the Proteſtant Cauſe is a good Cauſe; and that God will be aſſiſtant to them, to defeat the aſſaults which Satan and Antichriſt make upon them: yet ought not theſe things to be deſpiſed, nor they to ſleep ſecurely on ſuch perſwaſions, but ought to believe that it is a providence of God that ſtirs up any to make diſcovery thereof to thoſe whoſe life and ſafety is in hazard, that they may the better ſecure themſelves from thoſe enemies who thus aſſault them.

To the end therefore that all Proteſtant Princes, and all Profeſſors of the true Religion, may have warning to avoid theſe Conſpiracies of the Pope of *Rome*, and all Popiſh Princes; I will through the help of God clearly and undauntedly declare and make known the moſt wicked Confederacies, and deviliſh Arts and Machinations of the Popiſh Confederates againſt the Proteſtant Religion. And what I ſhall relate, are not ſlight and trivial ſtories picked up from the diſcourſe of ordinary perſons, or idle Monkiſh dreams; but what I have heard my ſelf from the Pope's own mouth, and from the Cardinals themſelves, and which have come to my knowledge from the authentick Writings

of

of Popiſh Princes under their own hands and ſeals.

Nor am I frighted with the wrath and indignation which I am like to ſuſtain from Kings and Potent Princes incenſed by this diſcovery: For I ought to be more afraid of God, who is able to deſtroy both body and ſoul, than of thoſe who have power only to kill or torment a frail and mortal body. Be they inraged and full of indignation, and (if God ſo permit) fall fierce upon me, I am ſenſible I do acknowledge that it is from God that I am hereunto moved and incited; and ſhall, notwithſtanding their rage, undauntedly make known their treacherous Conſpiracies.

Hear therefore all ye that bear a good will to the Proteſtant Cauſe, and take good heed to what you hear.

Pope *CLEMENT* the *Eighth* (who is at this time Pope of *Rome*) having by ſtrange Artifice obliged to himſelf well-nigh all the Princes in Europe, not willing to neglect ſo fair an opportunity to eſtabliſh his tyrannical Power, doth endeavour with might and main to carry on and eſtabliſh the *holy League* (as they call it) of all Popiſh Kings and Princes, againſt the Proteſtant Intereſt; and which as to the greateſt part is already concluded.

1. For the Emperour, the King of *Spain*, the Archdukes of *Auſtria*, *Albert* and *Ferdinand*; the Dukes of *Bavaria*, *Lorrain* and *Savoy*; and almoſt all the reſt of the Popiſh Princes, except the *French* King, and the great Duke of *Tuſcany*) have already conſented and ſubſcribed the League; and the Pope moves every ſtone to engage the reſt to concur with them, and is in hope to effect it.

2. This League conſiſts of divers heads: The way of proceeding, the Time, the Preparation, the Proportion which each of them is to contribute to this holy War, they are plotting and contriving againſt the Proteſtants. And on this they are in all points agreed, that all theſe

Confederates ſhall with joynt force endeavour the extirpation of Proteſtant Religion by all the means they can.

3. The Emperour about a year ago was earneſt with the Pope for money and Aid againſt the *Turk*, whereby he might be able either to repreſs his inſolence, or at laſt bring him to honourable terms of Peace, or ſome laſting Truce; promiſing that ſo ſoon as he ſhall have diſpatched his buſineſs with the *Turk*, he will employ all his ſtrength and forces for the Pope againſt the Proteſtants, or (as they call them) the Hereticks.

4. The Pope is very much inclined to a Peace with the *Turk*, and for this reaſon would not laſt year give ear to the Embaſſadors of the *Perſian* King, who preſſed him to a general Confederacy againſt the *Turk*. For the Pope reckons that the Proteſtants are a greater hinderance to his affected Tyranny, than is the *Turk*. And doth oft complain that a long War hath now been managed for forty years together againſt the *Turk* to no advantage; whereas in the ſame time with far leſs expence the Church of *Rome* might have recovered her Authority in *Europe*. And he doth therefore endeavour to perſwade the *Turk* to ſeek a Peace, and perſwades the Emperour to let him have it on reaſonable terms.

5. In the year 1601. Cardinal *Dietrichſtein*, Biſhop of *Clomute* came in great haſte from *Prague* to *Rome*, and brought Letters to the Pope from the Emperour, promiſing the Pope to put in execution by force of Arms the ſentence which the Emperour had given in behalf of the Pope againſt the Proteſtants in the Cauſe concerning goods Eccleſiaſtick, which he commanded to be in all places reſtored to the uſe of the Church of *Rome*. And from thence the Pope conceived hopes of ſome occaſion to be offered of beginning ſome broils and commotions in *Germany*; and it was agreed between them that the greateſt part of thoſe

goods

goods ſhould be diſtributed amongſt thoſe who ſhould be moſt active in that War.

6. The ſame Cardinal did at the ſame time promiſe (as he ſaid) in the Emperours name, that in the mean time (while things were getting in readineſs for an open War) the Emperour and the Princes of *Auſtria* would wholly turn out all Proteſtants within their hereditary Dominions, as in *Auſtria*, *Tyrole*, *Croatia*, *Carinthia*, *Stiria*, and the like places; and that they would in like manner fall upon them in *Moravia*, *Sileſia*, and *Bohemia*; firſt without noiſe if it may be, and then by force of Arms, eſpecially of thoſe ſouldiers which come back from the War of *Hungary*; (For in ſuch caſes they do not think fit to truſt the *German* ſouldiers) and that he had already granted to them the ſpoiling and pillaging thoſe people in caſe they return not to the Church of *Rome*.

7. The Popes Legate now reſident at *Prague* did write ſome months ago, that all theſe things are in great part already diſpatched; that the Proteſtants were caſt out of thoſe Provinces, and the Jeſuites by the Emperors permiſſion poſſeſs'd of moſt of the Proteſtant Churches and places, not only in *Auſtria* and *Carinthia*, but likewiſe in *Sileſia* and *Moravia*: And that the *French* ſouldiers under the command of one Count *Benegrave* had already burnt ſome Villages in the borders of *Bohemia*, and that they intended this year to make more progreſs therein, eſpecially by the aſſiſtance of the *Italians*, which the Pope ſends into *Hungary*, chiefly for this end, to ſpoil and deſtroy the Proteſtants.

8. The Emperour hath alſo promiſed that he will not henceforth confer any chief Offices, whether in Civil or Military Affairs, on any that are Hereticks, or do in any wiſe favour them: And moreover, that all leſſer Offices now enjoyed by Proteſtants, ſhall be taken from them, unleſs within a time limited they return to the Church of *Rome*. And by this

this means the Popes Legate informed, that daily many of the Nobility in *Germany* do renounce the *Lutheran*, and turn to the *Romish* Religion; and that on such are frequently bestowed good places and Offices, that others may be thereby incouraged to make the like revolt. For they are perswaded from the experience of all times, that by ambition, and covetousness of riches and honours, many have been seduc'd, who 'tis thought would otherwise have been very constant.

9. By this promise the Pope having conceived great hopes, hath taken the confidence to press the Emperour to depose and put out some of the Protestant Nobility by him named, from publick Offices and places, Civil and Military, which then they enjoyed. And among these by name Count *Colinick*, *Henry Matthew*, *a Turre*, a *Bohemian*, the Lord of *Offer-Kirchen*, the Barons of *Pothan*, of *Ogliſto*, of *Dermenſtorf*, and the like; and desir'd that he would put in their places some of the Popish Nobility, and such as had revolted; affirming that things would never succed well against the *Turks*, if the War were managed by Protestants: And that he would never endure, nor was it for the dignity of a Catholick Emperour, that in a Christian Army against Infidels they should be suffered to have *Lutheran* Sermons; which he therefore requir'd to be wholly suppress; threatning that otherwise he would never endure that they should henceforth have any leavies of souldiers in *Italy* or *Spain* to be sent thither; lest these Provinces which are yet free should become infected with Heresie.

10. The Duke of *Mercury* gives this advice, that divers of those who are his adherents, may be promoted to Military employments: And himself hath written to Cardinal *Aldobrandine*, to perswade the Pope, that this the Emperor may do very easily. The Pope believing this to be a good means for the removing Sermons out of the Army, and for

pre-

preparing a way to many other things for the ruine of the Proteſtants, hath very earneſtly deſir'd the ſame thing of the Emperour; from whom yet he hath received no other anſwer, than that he muſt wait a convenient time for the doing of it, and ſome better opportunity; and in the mean time he will take care to do it by little and little.

11. The ſame Duke of *Mercury* about two years ſince, having conference with the Confederates to this purpoſe, had reſolved that in winter time (when the War in *Hungary* could not be carried on) he would carefully take a view of all *Germany*, and (as if he were minding ſomewhat elſe) obſerve and take notice of the places, Situations, Rivers, Straights, Borders, Paſſes, Avenues, Forts and Strengths of the Proteſtant Princes and Proteſtant Cities, that he might the better contrive waies to ſurprize and circumvent them, in the War deſign'd. And I my ſelf have ſeen at *Rome* with the Duke of *Sueſſe* the delineations of ſome places belonging to the Proteſtants drawn by *Petrine* a Mathematician to the ſaid Duke. And while he was yet living, I heard the ſame was to be done by the Duke of *Nevers* who ſeeks for the place of the Duke of *Mercury* in the War of *Hungary*.

12. When the Pope perceived that he could not preſently obtain from the Emperor to put out the aforeſaid Proteſtant Nobility; he did by a new device deſire of the Emperour that he would at leaſt employ a ſmaller number of the Proteſtant forces, leaſt by this means they might be trained up in military skill to the prejudice of the *Roman* Church, and come to have the better of the Catholicks. That it were much better that the Emperour ſhould raiſe none but Popiſh, Souldiers, and require pay and contributions for them from the Proteſtants: For by this means the Proteſtants in a ſhort time would be at once diſarm'd and impoveriſh'd. That many of the things deſign'd might then be begun and attempted

attempted for the distruction of the Protestants, which, as things now stand, could not be thought off. And the better to perswade the Emperour hereunto, he accused the Protestants of holding correspondence with the *Turk*.

13. The Pope hath some Counceloors in the Emperours Court who stick very close to him, who for large pensions and great hopes, wherewith he feeds them, do incline the Emperour to comply with the Popes directions; and by their means he is made acquainted not only with the Emperours actions, but with his very propensions and inclinations.

14. The Pope presseth for an election of a King of the *Romans*; fearing least if the Emperour should die before a Successor were appointed, some might be chosen in his place, who either is not a Papist, or at least more moderate toward the Protestants. And for this reason he doth press the Emperour to it; and both to him and to the Ecclesiastick Electors he doth earnestly recommend *Albertus*; whom in many respects he desires to have preferr'd before the rest; for this consideration especially, because he thinks that by this means the Popish Religion will come to be restored in the *Netherlands* and in *Germany*, and moreover because the King of *Spain* doth make offer and promise to imploy all his strength and forces against the *Turk* and the Hereticks, in case they chose *Albertus*.

15. The King of *Spains* Embassadour resident at *Rome* produced letters from that Kings Embassadour at *Prague*, informing him that one of the Protestant Electors was inclinable to *Albertus*; and that the *Spaniards* promise themselves great things of him, both as to the business of the election, and the affairs of the *Netherlands*.

16. The Emperour seems more inclined to *Matthias*, whom yet the Pope seems to reject by reason of some suspicions raised of him in matter of religion, which he endea-

vours

vours to remove by the perſecutions in *Auſtria* and *Moravia*, in which places he is very ſevere againſt the Proteſtants: hoping thereby to reconcile himſelf to the Pope and to the Eccleſiaſtick Electors, but in vain. For the Pope and Eccleſiaſticks do not ſo much look at matter of Religion, as Politick Intereſts; and would have *Albertus*, not becauſe he is more religious, but becauſe they think he will be the more potent, and will leſs regard the Proteſtant Princes.

17. Becauſe of this Election it is, that many things againſt the Proteſtants are at preſent deferr'd, which they would forthwith put in execution if they could, without them obtain an Election for the houſe of *Auſtria*. For the Emperour is afraid if he ſhould uſe open hoſtility againſt the Proteſtants, the Proteſtant Princes would be averſe to him and his family; and for this cauſe he doth ſooth and make much of many of them at preſent, whom (if he had obtained his end) he would certainly deſpiſe.

18. The Archbiſhop of *Cologne* hath alſo writ letters to Cardinal St. *George* wherein he intercedes for his houſe of *Bavaria*; affirming that he hath the votes of ſome of the Electors inclinable to his Family. And makes offers to the Pope both in his own and in his Fathers name, of all their forces and aſſiſtance for the exaltations of the *Roman* Church.

19. At the ſame time came privately to *Rome*, in the Duke of *Bavaria*'s name, an Embaſſadour called *Somburg*, one of the four Knights of the Empire, who on the behalf of the ſaid Duke treated of divers things with the Pope and Cardinals concerning the manner of proceeding and taking an opportunity for beginning of that holy War. He preſſed alſo the buſineſs of the Election; and to obtain the Popes favour toward him, he gave great hopes that by the Colloque at *Ratisbone*, which was then under conſideration, ſome of the Ptoteſtant Princes might be brough over to

the *Romiſh* Church. Which notwithſtanding, the Pope could not be induced to grant that it ſhould be held with his conſent, but had given command to *Claudius Aquaviva*, that things being hazardous it ſhould be broken off.

20. The Citizens of *Ausburg* (among whom were *Mark Velſarus*, and *George Fucherus*) were inſtant with the Pope to obtain from the Emperour that the Proteſtant Miniſters might be expelled and caſt out of the City of *Ausburg*; which at that time (they ſaid) might eaſily be done, for that the chief inhabitants and the Magiſtrates of the place were Popiſh, and the Neighbouring Princes very zealous for the *Roman* Religion. The cauſe was managed in their name by Cardinal *Palavicini*, and by the ſaid *Fucherus*, who the laſt year came to *Rome* on purpoſe. And with him was one Dr. *Brandanus* who ſuggeſted to them by what means it might moſt eaſily be brought to paſs. And it was thus far bronght about that the Emperour at the Popes inſtance, conſented to the ejection of thoſe Paſtors in caſe it could be done without commotion and ſedition; and did openly declare that he deſir'd nothing more than that it might ſo be done in all the Cities of the Empire.

21. In a Congregation held at *Rome* beginning in *Jan.* 1602. It was there decreed, with the Emperours concurrence thereunto, that there ſhould be *Jeſuits* plac'd and maintain'd in all Cities of the Empire, by whoſe means the way might be prepar'd for the deſigned perſecution. For they hoped that by the Artifices of the *Jeſuits* they might ſo far prevail as to get many to favour them in thoſe Cities who were otherwiſe Proteſtants: by whoſe aſſiſtance they hoped with more eaſe to ſuppreſs the Proteſtants. The Queſtion then was only concerning their maintenance. For the *Germane* Biſhops complained of the ſmalneſs of their Revenue. And the Pope at length concluded to maintain them for the preſent at the charge of the treaſury of the Church till ſome other courſe ſhould be found out.

22. Arch-

22. Arch-Duke *Ferdinand* Prince of *Stiria*, and *Carinthia*, did lately make complaint to the Pope, that whereas he had expelled of his Provinces all the Proteſtants; many of them notwithſtanding continued yet to live there by the indulgence of the Eccleſiaſtick Princes who held ſome places in his Provinces; as for inſtance, the Biſhop of *Bomberg* and the Arch-Biſhop of *Salisbury*, who received and entertained them: wherefore he prayed the Pope ſtraitly to charge and to compel them utterly to caſt thoſe out, otherwiſe he threatned to uſe his Soveraign Authority, which he pretends to have in thoſe places, and to caſt them out by an armed force, even whether thoſe Biſhops would or not; with which the Pope was well pleaſed.

23. While things are in preparation for an open War againſt the Proteſtants, the Popiſh Party are contriving how to make attempts on the Proteſtant Intereſt; and have this year ſent into the Countries of the *Netherlands*, and of *England*, a great number of Spies and Seducers, by whoſe means many of all ſorts are ſeduced, and wrought over to their party; who are then maintained in Proteſtant Cities at the Popes charge, to be ſerviceable unto him in what he is deſigning. Some of theſe Emiſſaries about a month ago, went through *Lipſia* in a diſguiſe, in their paſſage into *Pruſſia*, where they hope to neſtle, as ſhall afterward be ſhew'd. If the actions of theſe Emiſſaries were well obſerved, it would not be hard to take ſome of them, and by their notes and memorials theſe and many other things might be diſcovered.

24. A few years ſince the Pope erected here in *Rome* two Congregations or Senates; whereof one is called *Congregatio ad propagationem Fidei*, (The Congregation for the propagating of the Faith) the other, *Congregatio ſacri Fœderis*, (The Congregation of the holy League.) In each of which are nine Cardinals, and as many Councellers, who meet together once every week; and there they act, meditate and

ſtudy nothing but how to contrive, propoſe, and conſider all means of propagating the Popiſh Tyranny, and how to prepare the way for the perſecution, and the butchering of the Proteſtants; and how to lay hold of all advantages of beginning that curſed War deſigned againſt them. From this Congregation are ſent forth thoſe Spies and Emiſſaries who every year in great numbers are imployed to make broils in Proteſtant Countries, and ſeduce the Profeſſors of the true Religion. And theſe two Congregations are the ſhops wherein they form all their inſtruments, and contrive all their Machinations, Treacheries, Plots, Villanies, and all miſchiefs againſt the Proteſtants. Theſe Congregations hold particular correſpondence with the Jeſuites, and thoſe bred up in the Colledges or Seminaries of the *German*, *Engliſh*, and *Moravians*; from whence as out of a *Trojan* Horſe come forth thoſe Traiters and Seducers, whom (as we ſaid) they ſend out into all Proteſtant Countries. For theſe of all others are judged the fitteſt for ſubtle frauds and treacheries: For by reaſon of the languages they underſtand, their faſhions, kindred and relations which they have in all Proteſtant Countries, they can eaſily inſinuate and get into the Courts and acquaintance of Princes and perſons of quality: and if they find any pliable and eaſie to be wrought upon, they make it their buſineſs by little and little, with hopes and promiſes, as in the name of the Emperour or Pope of *Rome*, of honours, dignities, and great things, to allure, ſeduce and work upon them, and many times with great ſucceſs; as we may ſee in thoſe Lords and Nobles whom they have lately perverted, as Baron *Terriſle* the younger, *Cicendorff*, the Knight *Audechan* the younger, Baron *Dermenſdorff*, Baron *Thona*, and many others in *Germany*. I omit what they have done in *France*, *England*, and other Countries.

25. There is a great number of them every day flocking to *Rome*, to renounce the true Faith of Chriſt; but much greater

greater of thoſe who do privately at home abjure it, and are by theſe Emiſſaries inſtructed in the Popiſh Idolatry, and are maintained in the Country and Cities of *Germany*, that liveing covertly and under diſguiſe amongſt *Proteſtants*, they may have the better opportunity of promoting the *Popiſh* Intereſt; and do it effectually: For by their means it is perfectly known to *Rome*, what are the *Proteſtant* deſigns, differences and inclinations.

26. *Part* of theſe Apoſtates who flock to *Rome*, and are of the moſt part of mean condition, are entertained in the City of *Rome*, and the Court it ſelf, and there maintained to be ſerviceable againſt the *Proteſtants* who reſort to *Rome*; and for many other purpoſes, of which we ſhall ſpeak by and by. Others of them are diſperſed in ſeveral parts and Cities of *Italy*, to make diſcovery and obſervation, whether any of the *Proteſtant Princes* or Nobility come into *Italy*; which whenſoever they can diſcover (which is very eaſy to do by the Jeſuites education wherein they are exactly inſtructed) they preſently accuſe and give notice of them either to the *Pope*, or to the Inquiſitors according to the quality of the perſons.

27. Divers of theſe Spies at *Rome* I have known my ſelf, when about two years ſince I was converſant there: and to the end that thoſe *Proteſtants* who ſhall thither reſort, may beware of them, I will mention them by name. The firſt I ſhall name is *John Hierom Fendri*, who lets lodgings at the Sign of the White Lion; he with two of his Sons who underſtand the *Germane* tongue very well, receive from the *Pope* an annual penſion to betray the *Germanes* who come thither. The next is one *John Scherver*, at the Sign of the Black Eagle, near the Bridge of St. *Angelo*. The third is a *Dutch* Taylor in the Street called *Via Julia*. Theſe three by reaſon of the employments they exerciſe, run up and down to ſeveral Inns and Lodgings, as the Bear, the Bull, the Sword, *&c.* where *Germanes* uſe to lodge, and by occaſion

ſion of their Language, and the Trades they uſe, make uſe of that opportunity to inſinuate themſelves into acquaintance with the Gentlemen themſelves, or with their ſervants, and by little and little, by one ſign or other, eaſily diſcover of what Religion, and what Country they are; and do then preſently betray them without diſtinction, whatever their condition be, whether *Princes*, or of inferiour quality. For all theſe and many more receive penſions from the *Pope* to this purpoſe.

28. There are beſides theſe ſome other Apoſtates, men of learning, who do the ſame but in a more grave and ſubtle manner; for theſe come not but to great Perſons, whom the meanneſs of thoſe others is not fit to converſe with. Of theſe is one *Gaſper Schoppius* of *Bamberg*; Dr. *Fabor* a Phyſician (at the *Hoſpital* of the Holy Ghoſt) of *Franceford*, *Juſtus Calvin* of *Heidleburg*; *John Wouren* of *Amburg*; Dr. *Joſeph* of *Wormes*; *Arnold Martin* of *Swilzerland*; *Stephen della Favergia* of *Geneva*; a Son in law of *Anthony Calvin*; *Roboll* a Frenchman who heretofore Secretary to the Duke of *Bullione*, and many others of the ſame ſtamp from almoſt all parts of *Germany*. Theſe as ſoon as they underſtand that any *Germane* is come, of ſome name or with a handſom retinue, preſently reſort to him, and (as out of meer officiouſneſs in reſpect to their Country or Nation) proffer their ſervice and aſſiſtance, and offer to ſhew them what things remarkable are to be ſeen, and then by degrees begin to diſcourſe with them of the affairs of the Court of *Rome*, and ſometimes diſcourſe of the Popiſh Ceremonies and manners, as if themſelves were not in all things ſo well ſatisfied in the *Romiſh* Religion; that under this pretence they may make diſcovery where they be halting. And of theſe wicked Apoſtates they muſt have a great care who reſort to *Rome*; for few there are who can eſcape their ſubtilty; and many perſons of mean condition are by their means

means, and by the informations they give, caſt into priſon, and forc'd to renounce Chriſt. With Princes and Perſons of quality, the Pope for many reaſons thinks fit to deal more mildly; but yet for theſe alſo, he laies ſnares, and uſeth his endeavour either to ſeduce them, or privately to make them away.

29. By means of theſe Apoſtates and Spies, the Pope hath been made acquainted with the entry and abode of all great perſons who of late years have been in *Italy*; and from the day of their entring into *Italy* they have had ſome on the Popes behalf who have followed them from place to place, obſerved their actions and motions; not preſently to ſeize or commit them (for they have learned by experience, that theſe methods do not advantage the *Romiſh* Church) but to make diſcovery of their propenſions and inclinations, that they may the better know how to intice and ſeduce them.

30. The Pope or the Inquiſitors ſo ſoon as they are informed of any Proteſtant Prince or perſon of quality that is come, they preſently diſpatch ſome perſon of good condition to attend them, and to ſhew them all civilities, and beſtow upon them ſome ſmall preſents, and to entertain them with very civil language, and incourage them not to be afraid. Mean while by his Emiſſaries he neglects not to make attempt on them as to their Religion, and doth endeavour by all the civil waies, he can, either to ſeduce them from the Proteſtant Religion, or at leaſt to ſend them out of *Italy* with better opinions of the Popes proceedings, and the *Romiſh* Religion. Witneſs hereof are the Princes of *Wirtenburg*, of *Anhall*, of the *Palatinate*, of *Newburg* and of *Saxony*; who have been tempted by ſuch preſents, flatteries and artifices. And ſome of their Councellours and Preceptors vigorouſly aſſaulted and tempted with large promiſes of honours and dignities, to bring over and pervert their Princes:

ces: but those of meaner condition are betray'd to the Inquisitors, whom by long imprisonments and cruel torments they force to renounce Christ; or if they persist constant in the truth, then by fire and Sword and cruel torments they kill and destroy them.

31. By the coming and abode of the foresaid Princes in *Italy*, they came to understand much of the *Protestant Princes* differences among themselves, and of the State of Religion in *Germany*, and of the peoples affections toward their Princes. The Pope likewise by this means was made acquainted with the strength and counsels of divers of them, which afford him opportunity of raising and fomenting discords and jealousies amongst the Protestant Princes, and contriving many things for the ruine of the Protestant Cause, which before that time he was not able to do. And he hopes, as he hath often bragg'd, by the Protestants own Arms to propagate and establish his Tyranny. Let therefore the Protestant Princes take good heed to themselves: and if they be wise, not confide too much in Popish Princes; and forbear coming into *Italy*, and especially to *Rome*; and when at any time they come there, let them take heed what persons they have with them, and whom they put confidence in.

32. The Pope not long since had been informed that a part of *Prussia* was to descend to a Son of the Marquess of *Brandenburg*, and thereupon he so far prevailed with the Emperour and the King of *Poland*, that they three are joyntly to endeavour, that it come not to the House of *Brandenburg*, but to the King of *Poland*; and they have lately sent their Agents the *Jesuites* into those parts, to make way for it. For their design is to begin the broils in those parts; and for this end the *Romish* Legate is yet detained at *Rome* in order thereunto.

33. The aforesaid Confederates had endeavoured by their

Agents

Agents and Emiſſaries to ſuborn the Counts of *Friſland*, and draw them into a certain negotiation for delivering up the Town of *Emden* to the Emperour; that it might not come into the hands of the States, and that the Papiſts might on that ſide have a fair paſſage, and a gate open to fall upon the Proteſtants, and create diſturbance to their affairs in thoſe parts; and did pretend to have come to ſomewhat of certainty therein, and that they had drawn over thoſe Counts to the *Spaniſh* Intereſt, and the *Romiſh* Religion; and to that end did place and maintain ſome *Jeſuites* about them to inſtruct them and retain them in their duty and devotion to the See of *Rome*. But thoſe affairs, through the vigilance of the States, not ſucceeding as they deſired, they are now contriving ſome other expedients.

34. The Pope is by all means endeavouring to make a breach betwixt the Princes of *Auſtria*, and the Duke of *Wurtenburg* upon occaſion of the alienating and withdrawing the Fee of the Princedom of *Wurtenburg* by the Emperor; which they would not have to be thought valid, to the prejudice of the reſt of the *Auſtrian* Family; thoſe eſpecially who were then under age, whom he ſtirs up and incites to demand a reſtitution; and for that end to take Arms againſt the Duke of *Wurtenburg*, hoping that if once a War be begun in *Germany* againſt the Proteſtants, he ſhall be able to purſue his deſign, and reſtore the Popiſh Idolatry amongſt them.

35. The Popiſh Argitatours, and the Fathers of the two forementioned Congregations in *Rome*, are contriving likewiſe to make a breach between the Elector *Palatine*, and the ſaid Duke of *Wurtenburg*; upon occaſion of ſome poſſeſſions which have now for divers years been held by the Duke of *Wurtenburg*, whereof they are endeavouring (by means of ſome of his Councellours whom they have corrupted and other ill diſpoſed perſons) to perſwade the Elector *Palatine* to demand Reſtitution. And hope by this

means, together with that of their difference in Religion, they may engage them in a War, or at leaſt foment diſcords between them, and ſo alienate and divide them that they may not joyn in a common defence when either of them ſhall be aſſaulted, nor be aſſiſtant one to the other. I would therefore adviſe thoſe Princes to be very circumſpect, and not readily give ear to ſuch ſowers of diſſenſions between Proteſtants. They have endeavoured the like againſt the Marquiſate of *Bade* and *Durlac*, one of whom ſeem'd ready to comply with the Papiſts, and was treating with the Biſhops of *Spire* and *Conſtance* about reſtoring the Popiſh Religion in caſe he obtain that government; which he hopes to do becauſe of the Marquiſs of *Durlac* being ſo ill in health and (they ſay) cannot live long; and in ſuch caſe this Popiſh Succeſſor by the aſſiſtance of the Pope and the foreſaid Confederates promiſes, the reſtoring of Popiſh Idolatry, to which they will in no wiſe be wanting; for they leave nothing unattempted, and loſe no opportunity of raiſing commotions in *Germany*.

36. By the inſtigation of Arch-Duke *Albert*, and by the Popes Authority, they are endeavouring to incite the Emperour and all the States of the Empire againſt the *Belgick* Provinces of the *Low-countries*, pretending that they have done, and daily do poſſeſs divers places and dominions belonging to the Empire. And that they will in a ſhott time become formidable to all Kings and Princes, unleſs ſome ſtop be put to them, before their Empire grow too large. And ſo far hath this craft, and the ſubtle inſinuations of the Papiſts prevailed, that under theſe ſpecious pretences for the Empire, they have wrought upon ſome of the Proteſtant Princes, who being deceived and ſeduced, and by this their deviliſh ſubtilty ſeem inclinable to the deſtruction & ruine of theſe Provinces, not diſcerning that this is a moſt ſubtle crafty device and Stratagem of Antichriſt, to ſet Proteſtant againſt

againſt Proteſtant, and if poſſible to deſtroy the Proteſtant party by the Proteſtants own weapons. Theſe are (believe me) the venemous counſells and villainous contrivances of that curſed League and Confederacy, and thoſe wicked Congregations of the Pope above mentioned; palliated with this pretence that they are in the behalf of the Empire, and for the good thereof, to which they do in no wiſe appertain. Theſe counſels of ſuppreſſing the *Hollanders* are rather againſt the Empire than for it; as any man may eaſily diſcern, if he compare the preſent government with that of the *Spaniſh* tyrany. And moreover who is ſo ſtupid and void of all ſenſe, as not to know how little kindneſs the Popes of *Rome* ever had, or yet have toward the Empire, of whoſe greatneſs and Majeſty they were ever envious and profeſſed Enemies. And therefore even the Popiſh Princes themſelves ought alwaies to be ſuſpicious of their Councels when the good of the Empire is concerned.

37. From the ſame fountain (or Abyſs rather) of the aforeſaid Confederacies againſt the Proteſtants, proceed theſe Wars and Invaſions which have this laſt year been attempted againſt thoſe of *Geneva* and *Strasburg*, which are but the præludes or forerunners of the intended general perſecution: deſigning by theſe attempts to make an Eſſay of the Proteſtants Councels and Forces; and make obſervation whether the Proteſtants will conjoin their forces to defend their common cauſe; or each one ſtand ſeverally upon their own guard. I gave notice fifteen months ago by letters and truſty friends both to thoſe of *Geneva* and to thoſe of *Strasburg* of this deſign of the Popiſh Confederates to aſſault and ſurpriſe them unawars, whether or no they believed me, I cannot tell. But ſure I am that meerly out of Zeal to the Proteſtant Religion I gave them this Warning of what I knew to be certainly true; and they by experience and the event have found it ſo to be. And ſo it will be as

to thoſe things now write and ſincerely declare to all Proteſtant Princes. For God is my witneſs that the things I now diſcover are what I know to be true and already agreed upon. Nor do I this for any other deſign than out of Zeal to the Proteſtant Religion.

38. It was not without a deep and ſubtle deſign that they did at one and the ſame time fall upon *Geneva* and *Strasburg*; for by aſſalting both theſe at once, they hoped ſo to amuſe and employ the Proteſtants of *Switzerland* by the war againſt *Geneva*, that they ſhould not be at leiſure to give aſſiſtance to thoſe of *Strasburg*, as they did nine years ago. And again by the War begun againſt *Strasburg*, they hoped ſo to keep the Proteſtant Princes in fear and ſuſpence, as not to ſuffer any Souldiers to be raiſed in their Dominions to aſſiſt the States of *Holland* againſt *Albertus*. They had received intelligence that ſome of the Princes of *Germany* intended to give aſſiſtance to thoſe *Hollanders*, which they hoped to prevent by this War of *Strasburg* Nor had they failed in this conjecture had their deſign ſucceeded againſt *Geneva*. And though they were therein diſappointed, yet are they not thereby diſmayed, or give it over. For they have determined to attempt all waies of kindling a flame in *Germany*. And herein the forreign Princes are alſo very intent; as hoping to extinguiſh the flames which are yet raging in their own Countries, by kindling a fire elſewhere; and that by this means thoſe of their own Countries who are men of turbulent and ſeditious Spirits might have where to employ their fury, and ſatisfy their bloody minds. This artifice hath at all times given occaſion and fewel to many wars throughout the World. It hath long been made uſe of by the Popes of *Italy* and the Kings of *Spain*, who have now for many years ſate quiet at home, and been ſpectatours of the Wars in the *Netherlands*, in *France* and *Hungary*, which they for theſe ends did

did at firſt ſtir up and kindle, and do at this day foment and cheriſh. The noble *Germans* of former ages were not wont to wait for others to bring War home to them and aſſault them in their own Country; but to go out and meet it as far as *Italy*, *France* and *Spain*. That Heroick vertue is not yet extinguiſh'd in the *Germans* breaſt, and that divine Proweſs whereby they have conquered great part of the World. Let them but rouſe it up and exerciſe that valiant courage and undaunted Proweſs againſt theſe effeminate and faint-hearted Prieſtlings; who though at preſent incouraged by our ſloth, they grow fierce and inſolent, will not dare in *Italy* to look the *Germans* in the face, whom they could not in former daies look upon but with terrour. Let the *Germans* look over the noble acts of their Anceſtours recorded with glory in the writers of all ages; and learn at length to be true *Germans*; that is, ſuppreſſors of tyranny, aſſerters of liberty, and Maſters of the world, and not ſuffer the Popes Cowl with a few faint-hearted and lazy Popelings inſolently to inſult over the valiant and maſculine *Germane* Nation.

39. There was a conſtant fame, and it was reported by the *French* themſelves, that the attempt on *Geneva* by the Duke of *Savoy* was with the privity and conſent of the King of *France*. For by an agreement made two years ſince by Cardinal *Aldobrandine* between the *French* King and the Duke of *Savoy*, it was covenanted and agreed, that the Duke of *Savoy* might, without offence of the King, or violation of the Peace, aſſault *Geneva*. But with this condition that when it is taken it ſhall either be demoliſhed, or elſe ſo divided betwen them, that the King ſhall have that part of it which is on that ſide of the *Roſne* towards *France*; and the Duke that of the other ſide toward *Savoy*. At the ſame time, in that treaty with *Aldobrandine*, the King of *France* made promiſe of many things, concerning receiving the Councel of *Trent*, concerning the Confederacy or Holy League abovementioned, and reſtoring of the *Jeſuites*; which thought they

have

have hitherto been deferr'd, yet Cardinal *Doſutus* and the Kings Embaſſadour have promiſed the Pope that the King in due time will perform them all, and proteſted that he is very well addicted to the See of *Rome*, but that he hath not been able yet to make good his promiſe, becauſe of the League he was to confirm with the Helvetians, and ſome Proteſtant Princes; who he fears would be highly offended, if he ſhould put thoſe things in preſent execution; but he will do it in a ſhort time. But (to ſpeak what I think) I am of this opinion, as to the King of *France* (which alſo I have often heard from the mouth of the preſent Pope) to wit, that the King plays the Politician, and is firm to neither part.

40. The King of *Spain* under pretence of blocking up *Algiers*, hath prepared a great Fleet in the *Mediterranean* and *Tyrrhene* Sea, but means to go forth with it out of the *Streights*, either againſt the *Hollanders*, or againſt the *Engliſh*; and in expectation of this Navy it is that *Albertus* lies ſo long before *Oſtend*. Of this his intention there be many evidences, one of them is very apparent, that this Navy is for the moſt part furniſhed with very great Ships, which are very proper for the Ocean, but not ſo fit for the Coaſts of *Africk* and the *Mediterranean*; for which Gallies are more convenient, and ſuch only *Charls* the fifth made uſe of. But there are more certain arguments which I have obſerved from their Councels. Let them therefore take heed whom it concerns. Nor will it be long ere they make this expedition, if they can but ſecure themſelves of a ſafe Port on the Coaſt of the *Ocean*, which they are endeavouring with all their power. For this, they ſay, is the only obſtacle to their buſineſs, that they have not any Ports or Harbours large enough to receive a numerous Fleet; which if they could once obtain, they boaſt that they ſhould have forces innumerable and inſuperable both by Land and Sea. And truly there are in *Holland*, *Zeland*, *Friſland*, *England*, and *Scotland*, very great numbers who adhere to the Popiſh and Spaniſh Intereſt.

reſt, and who daily ſollicit the *Popiſh Princes* to take arms againſt thoſe Countries, and promiſe them all their aſſiſtance if once they arive there. And within theſe few weeks the *Jeſuits* who in thoſe Countries live in diſguiſe, and ſay *Maſſes*, have written to their Genetal *Claudius*, *Aquaviva*, that the number of *Papiſts* fit to bear arms within the *Provinces* of *Holland* and *Zealand* only, are thirty thouſand and more; and they are ſo zealous therein, that they are ready on any occaſion to ſpend their blood for the *Romiſh* Church. Their letters were read in the *Congregation* (as they call it) *for the Propagation of the Faith:* and with ſo great applauſe, that they were all of one opinion, that in caſe a Navy ſhould there arrive, it would be eaſie to raiſe a very great party ; and they conceive hopes of very great ſucceſs for the Catholicks in thoſe parts, if once *Albertus*'s affairs ſucceed well. And in truth the States ought with greater ſeverity to reſtrain the petulancy of theſe rebellious Spirits, that they grow not worſe by too much indulgence.

41. The Eccleſiaſticks in *Germany* (that is to ſay) the Biſhops of *Mentz* and *Collogne* have given information to the *Pope*, that there are up and down in *Germany* divers Confederaices amongſt the *Proteſtant Princes*, and frequent meetings to that purpoſe; partly for maintaining *Calviniſm* againſt the *Lutherans*, and partly for maintaining *Lutheraniſm* againſt the *Calviniſts* ; and that they are at this time at greater diſcord amongſt themſelves, more incenſed and more inraged againſt one another than ever they were, all of them againſt the *Papiſts*. And added moreover many particulars concerning their Factions in ſtate affairs, and other emulations and hatreds of each Religion againſt the other, and of differences among themſelves, and how the people ſtand affectd toward their *Princes*, from whence they might preſage and were in hopes, that in a ſhort time the *Proteſtants* will fall foul upon one another, and by that means the *Popiſh* Religion be greatly promoted, The afore-

ſaid

ſaid Confederates on this occaſion ſpare neither for pains nor coſt to cheriſh and foment theſe diſcords, contentions and animoſities amongſt the *Proteſtants*, and (which is very pernicious and much to be lamented) have ſo prevailed through their ſubtilty and our ſloth, that for promoting and furthering theſe diſcords they make advantange of the ſimplicity (ſhall I ſay) or malignity of *Proteſtant Princes* and Councellors. And many there are at this time through the Craft of the *Papiſts*, and Artificers of ſome Courtiers, ſo bewitched, as to think verily that the *Popiſh* Monarchs and *Princes* bear no ill will to the *Proteſtant* Intereſt, and (which is more,) that the *Pope* himſelf favours this Religion, and is deſirous of *Peace* with us: And being deluded with this vain perſwaſion, and beſotted (as it were) with this deadly lethargy, they who ſhould be moſt watchful over the Lords flock are fallen a ſleep.

I beſeech therefore, moſt Illuſtrious Princes, all of you, who have renounced the *Popiſh* Idolatry, and imbraced the *Proteſtant* Religion, whether by the name of *Luther* or *Calvin*, that laying aſide all diſcords and animoſities (if any be) amongſt your ſelves, you would all agree in one ſolemn *League* (and truly ſacred) amongſt your ſelves againſt your profeſſed and ſworn enemies; & would believe that the whole *Popiſh* party, whoever they be, are your worſt enemies; and if you give not credit to my bare narration; obſerve (I beſeech you) their actions and motions; for you will eaſily diſcern that it is all true which I have here written. And herein I have not conſulted my own advantage, but what is neceſſary for the ſafety of your ſelves, and the whole *Proteſtant* Intereſt. I have omitted many particulars that I might not be over tedious; which yet if I ſhall find you to make a due uſe as you ought of what is now written, I will not fail to add for the common Intereſt of the *Proteſtant* cauſe. In the mean time be watchful, take heed to your ſelves, and give thanks to God.

Francis Brotcard, Secetary to the Pope.

FINIS.